United Nations E/CN.6/2011/L.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
1 March 2011

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-fifth session
22 February-4 March 2011
Agenda item 3 (c)
Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century": gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters

Philippines: draft resolution

Mainstreaming gender equality and empowerment of women in climate change policies and strategies

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming the commitments in the Beijing Platform for Action[1] under the critical area "Women and the environment",

Reaffirming also principle 20 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] which recognizes that women have a vital role in environmental management and development, and in this regard recalling the objectives of Agenda 21[3] relating to women, particularly with regard to women's participation in national ecosystem management,

Stressing the need to ensure women's full enjoyment of all human rights and their effective participation in environmental decision-making at all levels and the need to integrate their concerns and gender equality perspectives in sustainable development policies and programmes,

Recalling the agreed conclusions on women and the environment adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-first session and on

[1] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

Please recycle

environmental management and the mitigation of natural disasters adopted by the Commission at its forty-sixth session,

Recalling also that the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters[4] recognizes that a gender perspective should be integrated into all disaster risk management policies, plans and decision-making processes, including those related to risk assessment, early warning, information management and education training,

Recalling further Human Rights Council resolution 10/4 of 25 March 2009, in which the Council recognized that while climate-change related impacts have a range of implications, the effects of climate change will be felt most acutely by those segments of the population that are already vulnerable owing to geography, gender, age, indigenous or minority status and disability,

Deeply concerned that the adverse impacts of climate change on women and girls, especially those living in poverty, can be exacerbated by gender inequality and discrimination,

Mindful that women who live in conditions of social exclusion have limited opportunities to participate in training and capacity-building and have less access to information related to all aspects of climate change, including on climate forecasts and related warnings,

Recognizing that women are powerful agents of change with the potential to contribute innovative responses to the challenges posed by climate change, including by disasters,

Underscoring that gender equality perspectives and the effective participation of women are crucial for effective action on all aspects of climate change, and welcoming in this regard the priority given to such perspectives and participation in the Cancun Agreements adopted at the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, held in Cancun, Mexico, from 29 November to 10 December 2010,[5]

1. *Calls upon* Governments to integrate a gender perspective into their climate change policies and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources to ensure women's full and equal participation in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues, in particular on strategies related to the impact of climate change on the lives of women and girls;

2. *Urges* Governments to facilitate and increase the participation of women, including indigenous women, as decision-makers, entrepreneurs, planners, evaluators, managers, scientists, technical advisers and beneficiaries in the design, development and implementation of all aspects of climate change policies;

3. *Urges* Governments and all other relevant actors, in their efforts in dealing with climate change, to promote women's equal access to education, media and information, communications and technology and to encourage women's equal

[4] A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1, chap. I, resolution 2.

[5] See http://unfccc.int.

participation in training and capacity-building for climate change adaptation and mitigation;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, in their efforts in dealing with climate change, to support and empower rural women, who are engaged in agricultural production and play a vital role in providing food security threatened by climate change, including land tenure and other property rights, by enhancing their access to and control of resources;

5. *Calls upon* Governments, United Nations entities and other relevant bodies involved in implementing climate change policies to provide training on the protection, rights and the particular needs of women and girls and to promote gender balance and gender sensitivity among their representatives and staff;

6. *Encourages* Governments and international financial facilities and institutions that provide climate- and environment-related assistance to ensure that a gender perspective is incorporated into the design, approval, execution and monitoring of projects;

7. *Invites* social, economic, political and scientific institutions to take into account the impact of environmental degradation and climate change on women, and, in this regard, to develop gender-sensitive database tools, databases and statistics, which should include reliable, comparable and relevant data, disaggregated by sex and age, as well as methodologies and policy analyses to better understand the links between gender and climate change;

8. *Encourages* Governments to integrate a gender component into their periodic reporting as States parties to multilateral environmental agreements, and in this regard requests the secretariats of such agreements, as appropriate, to include a gender perspective in the preparation of guidelines for reporting.